From: John Wilson
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 7:33pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I do not agree with the settlement terms as they exist at this point. I appreciate with Microsoft's contention that they should be free to innovate, but they should be forced to compete with the rest of the industry on a level playing field through the quality of their products, rather than by flexing their monopolistic muscles. Windows XP is a clear indication that they have no intentions of playing by the rules, even after all they have been through. Windows XP is just as unstable as Win2K (both are far more stable than the Win95/98 series), and they have once again bundled their "cornerstone" software in such a way that it becomes impossible to separate. You cannot shut down Messenger when MS Office is running, for example. The error message states that "There are other applications currently using features provided by Windows Messenger. These applications may include Outlook, Outlook Express, MSN Explorer and Internet Explorer". This is precisely the same thing they did when making IE part of the OS. Clearly they haven't learned their lesson, which means the current settlement terms do not go nearly far enough.

Please make them play fair. That is your job. You are not helping the industry by making it easy on Microsoft, you are hurting it.